



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 17 2012

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 823 without my signature.

This bill establishes a "Children's Coordinating Council," consisting of members of government, to advise itself on how it can improve collaboration amongst itself when it comes to delivering services to the children of this state.

For almost two years now, my administration has worked to eliminate unnecessary boards, commissions, advisory bodies, and reports, so that government is not so overloaded with the work of form over the work of function.

I commend the author's heartfelt desire to improve the lot of all children in the state, but the creation of another Council is not the solution. If anything, it lulls us into the fallacy that forms can solve our problems. Instead, let's try to be honest and thoughtful about the good we can do, and then do the good – without the statutory decree, not because of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edmund G. Brown Jr." with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.